

Freedom of Information request 12-22

Request

- Over the last 2 months, how many members of staff have been re-rolled from their usual duties to work on COVID-19 related duties?
- What services have been suspended because of staff being re-rolled to work on COVID-19 related duties? For example, health improvement functions such as: BBV testing, cancer screening promotion, breast feeding support and public mental health services.

Response

- Please see the table below for the number of members of staff who have been re-rolled from their usual duties to work in supporting the response to Covid-19 activity (please note these staff have not all worked in COVID-19 areas but may have been deployed to release more appropriate staff to work in COVID-19 services):

Secondary Care (Acute Hospital)	
Borders General Hospital (BGH)	Since 3 January 2022 29 members of staff have been re-rolled to work on Covid-19 related duties. This has not been a requirement before this date.
Borders Macmillan Centre	There has been 1 member of staff re-rolled to work on Covid-19 related duties.
Primary Care (Community)	
Health Visiting, School Nursing and School Immunisation Teams	None.
Podiatry	None.
Speech & Language Therapy	None.
District Nursing	None. Please note: there have been around 5 occasions where a nurse has completed a shift in the BGH, this was not re-deployment and was instead to assist the service.
Physiotherapy	None. Again, there have been a small number of occasions where staff have supported staff within secondary care, but this has not been re-deployment.
Dietetics	None.
Home First Community Hospitals Sexual Health	No members of staff have been re-rolled to work on Covid-19 related duties. There have however been 10 members of staff who have provided at least 1 shift in secondary care, this is again to support – not re-deployment.
Occupational Therapy	None.

Dental	There have been 6 members of staff re-rolled to work on Covid-19 related duties.
Admin	None
Discharge & Pathway Co-ordination Team	None

1. At NHS Borders we have not suspended any service fully due to staff being re-rolled to work on Covid-19 duties, therefore this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Under Section 15: Duty to Provide Advice and Assistance, please note that we have been required at times to restrict activity in some services to emergency only, to prioritise clinically urgent activity only or to postpone or reschedule routine appointments.

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk.

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **12-22** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.